

**The Weather**  
Fair and warmer to-day; cloudy tomorrow. Details, page 8.

**OWNERS PLAN FRESH FIGHT WITH MINERS**

**Operators Welcome Opportunity to Combat Union Labor.**

**SITUATION LIKE RAILWAY TANGLE**

**Brotherhood Chiefs Unable to Give Assistance To Coal Workers.**

CHICAGO, March 23.—The almost identical parallel between conditions that faced the great railroad unions last October when they set a date for a strike and then thought better of it, and the barriers that the coal miners must leap if they strike on April 1, is one of the major reasons why industrial leaders here, including heads of big railroads, are not doing much worrying over stoppage of work in the mines.

The most important phase, it is declared, is the attitude of the railroad executives and the coal operators.

The railroad chiefs were more anxious for a strike than the employees last October. They were so anxious, in the opinion of some of the executives, that they spoiled the strike. They wanted a complete walkout so that an intended onslaught against the big shop craft unions could be launched with the idea of putting the shop men into every railroad shop in the country.

**Will Welcome It.**

Coal operators here are said to be downright enthusiastic about the strike. Wage reductions, and the possibility of a checkoff and district wage differentials are matters on which they want an immediate showdown. They want it so bad that they are afraid something may happen to prevent the walkout April 1.

This "something," the operators fear, is the action by Attorney General Daugherty, just as the Federal Railroad Labor Board stepped in—as the union leaders knew it would—and stopped the railroad strike.

Mention was made of these things by railroad executives at a conference here today between W. G. Lee, president of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, and J. E. Shaw, president of the Order of Railway Conductors. They discussed wages, and while it was reported that the initial session indicated that no regional agreement would be reached, contracts with individual carriers satisfactory all around are in the immediate offing. The brotherhoods have already got a wedge in for permanent settlements with some of their brand-new contracts with the Lackawanna Railroad in the East.

**Would Throw Out Case.**

While the brotherhood leaders were in conference, Bert M. Jewell, president of the Federated Shop Crafts, was heard by the board, arguing against wage cuts for 500,000. Jewell is attempting to have the applications of the four carriers for wage cuts thrown out by the board on the ground that they were not preceded by proper conferences between union representatives and the railroads.

But whether they are progressing or not, the big chiefs of the railroads are not at all busy arguing with the union troubles. They are busy with the nominal pact that was signed between them here a short time ago.

After a tour of the Illinois mines, A. F. Murphy, editor of the Black Diamond, the coal publication, declared that economic conditions in the mines were "not so bad" as last six days, he said. "In addition, I do not believe Illinois miners would be averse to taking a wage cut. Conditions have been such that nonunion miners, for example, have been placed in the Chicago market cheaper than Illinois coal. This has resulted in intermittent working hours and the miners realize it."

**Miners Agree to Keep Property from Week.**

NEW YORK, March 23.—After reaching an agreement with the anthracite coal operators on the terms under which the maintenance force to be left in the mines will work during the general suspension beginning April 1, President Lewis of the United Mine Workers, left early this evening for Cleveland to attend the conference of the miners' policy committee.

The agreement, affecting necessary maintenance and repairs, which was reached after a long session, was written out and signed under the following terms:

"It is understood that pending the negotiation of a new agreement the organization shall allow such maintenance as may be required for the proper maintenance and protection of property to work at the wage provided by the various organizations under the provisions of the present agreement. Under the new agreement when consummated shall be effective as of April 1, 1922."

The subcommittee adjourned its sessions until Monday.

Lewis stated for the miners that they were perfectly satisfied with the agreement. This question, he said, took up most of the session.

**Will Present Demands.**

Again, according to Lewis, the operators failed to amplify their counter demand of last week for a wage reduction. The real crisis of the negotiations will come next week, when with preliminaries out of the way it is believed both sides will lay their cards on the table. The miners, it was stated, will present specific data in support of their claims, including a formidable array of statistics.

# Streets of Moscow Hum With the Buzz of War Talk

## Tension Increases as Spring Brings Annual Crop of Rumors and Russia Eyes Poland Suspiciously.

MOSCOW, March 23.—With the arrival of spring—traditional season of war, rumors of war and unrest in Russia—Moscow is stirring to reports of impending conflict with Poland, Finland, Rumania, possibly involving Germany and eventually France.

Tension is constantly increasing and war talk is the one absorbing topic of conversation on the street, in cafes and at the theater. Drotachky drivers and merchants, communists and what aristocrats are left, think, write and talk of little else. The general public is convinced that war is on the way.

**Annual Spring Tension.**

Travelers from Petrograd report a similar situation in the former capital with the spirit of jingoism spreading into the country.

Well-informed observers, however, admit that this feeling is in part due to the annual spring nervousness as well as to the saber-rattling speeches of Lenin and Trotsky—a political trick frequently played before any big party conference, such as the communist congress, which is due to meet soon.

**War Might Aid Soviet.**

The preparations of the Soviet war department, on the other hand, lend a more serious aspect to the situation and give some tangible reason for apprehension. It is also pointed out that if the Genoa conference fails in its purpose, war might offer certain advantages to the Soviet as a last resort. Many Soviet officials believe that in any conflict or European shake-up Russia is bound to gain more than she can lose.

A victory over France's proteges, Poland, moreover would increase Russia's political prestige tremendously, and might bring about what the Moscow government considers a desirable change in attitude by capitalist governments in future dealings with the Soviet.

**POPULACE DROP, BEAUTY PARLOR CHILD INCREASE**

**Scene of Duel**

Growth Averages 4 Per Cent, Despite Loss in Population.

As Private Detective Enters.

Evades Arrest

Sister-in-Law Foils Bonner's Effort to Locate His Wife.

Overcrowding in the public schools becomes more pronounced, despite any loss in population the District might sustain by the administration's policy in reducing departmental forces.

This phenomenon, shown by figures of the school authorities, disproves the theory advanced by Congress in appropriating for the District that the gradual return to normalcy would automatically provide additional room for school children in Washington.

**Increase is 4 per cent.**

Congress has held that Washington's population had been abnormally inflated during the war and as the government reduced its forces the school attendance would decrease proportionately until the children could be accommodated without considerable expense.

The statement recently compiled by the schools shows that the opposite has been the case.

Records of public utilities in the District show that the population of Washington has decreased, while school records show that the attendance has increased more than 4 per cent in the past year.

**Big Gain in High Schools.**

Enrollment in the high schools of Washington, according to the statement, has increased over 15 per cent for the year 1922 over the preceding year. The total enrollment for this year was 11,312, as against 9,373 for the year 1921.

The greatest gain was in the attendance of the normal schools which increased from 228 in 1921 to 342 in 1922.

An addition of 750 to the number of pupils of the grade schools was shown, which brings the total attendance in the elementary department up to 52,178. The Dunbar colored high school has increased its attendance from 64,314, which shows an increase of 2,679 over the 61,635 of last year.

**Complete attendance in the day schools is 64,314, which shows an increase of 2,679 over the 61,635 of last year.**

The population of Eastern High School is shown to have jumped from 756 last year to 1,001 in 1922, a gain of 245 pupils or nearly 33 per cent.

Central High School is now accommodating 3,192 students, while last year the attendance was 2,929, an increase of 263 pupils.

Western High School is accommodating 182 more pupils than were enrolled last year, which brings its attendance up to 957.

McKinnon Training School accommodated 1,316 in 1921 and now houses 1,543 students.

The Armstrong colored high school has increased its attendance from 709 to 1,065. The Dunbar colored high school has added 146 and the Shaw has increased from 384 to 437 pupils during the year.

**ROMA DISASTER**

**BLAMED ON CONTROL**

An unforeseen accident to the steering apparatus is held responsible for the recent Roma disaster, in which thirty-four American officers designated by Secretary of War Weeks to investigate the cammen perished, by the Board of Army catastrophe, it was learned at the War Department yesterday.

The report of the board now before the Secretary and Maj. Gen. Mason Patrick, chief of the Army Air Service, offers no startling developments and holds no individual or group of individuals responsible, it is understood. Failure of the steering rudder to respond at a time when it was impossible to make a clear landing caused the great semicircular airship to crash to the ground, where it burst into flames through contact with a high-tension wire.

Formal publication of the report is being withheld pending the completion of an examination by Gen. Patrick. Secretary Weeks already has gone over the report and it is expected that it will be released today.

**Assassinate General.**

MEXICO CITY, March 23.—Gen. Licona was assassinated at Coyacan last night by Pedro Arrillaga, the manager of a large department store, Gen. Licona, who was an officer in Gen. Zapata's army, had a bad record, being charged with numerous assassinations. Senor Arrillaga escaped.

# W. & M. CHEF SAYS MERGER IS INEVITABLE

**Danger Signals Flying on Capitol Hill, Selden Warns Companies.**

**OUTLINES SCHEME FOR "FAIR" UNION**

**Wants Square Deal for Poorer-Paying Lines, He Writes.**

Danger signals are flying at Capitol Hill, and it behooves street car officials, who are sincere and wish to serve the public, to get together, declared Charles Selden, Jr., president of the Washington and Metropolitan Railway Company, yesterday.

"Consolidation of all the car lines is inevitable," he said. "It is coming soon."

The merger bill which was reported to the Senate Tuesday will be considered at an early meeting of the House District Committee, probably next Wednesday. Chairman Focht, of that committee, has said that further dallying will not be tolerated long.

**Congress Will Act.**

If the companies do not come to terms by the purchase of the Washington Railway and Electric and subsidiary or other lines, or by a merger of interests on a fair valuation fixed by the utilities commission, or by some other plan that will give the public a rest and better and cheaper service, Congress will take a hand. That is the view of Chairman Focht. Whether the street car officials like it or not, legislation will be passed which will end the difficulties.

Representative Wood, of Virginia, favors the net earnings tax as a means of equalizing valuations so that the companies can come to terms, and a gross income of 1 per cent.

**President Selden's Views.**

In a signed article written for The Herald yesterday, President Selden, of the W. & M., said: "Abandonment by the Public Utility Commission of the District of Columbia of part of the program of the so-called merger bill may at first blush seem as if the policy of the commission was a vacillating one. The case is not so, however, for the reason that certain parts and features of this bill were not advocated originally by this commission, although the commission has not entirely worked out its plan by changing the program, has, to a certain extent, weakened its own position, which may result in no legislation, Congress looking to them to work out this problem by other means or indirect action of more drastic character to the detriment of the utilities themselves and eventually the public."

The taxable feature of the merger bill while urgent to American ideas and drastic in the present case, quoting from the "Mikado," makes the punishment for furnishing good and efficient service a crime (for being prosperous). It is none the less within the broad powers of the right of taxation by the government and may be a constitutional measure. It may eventually work to the benefit of inducing a more receptive mood of the transportation companies to get together for the general public good and future development.

**Capital's Strong Position.**

"Col. Keller, chairman of the Public Utilities Commission, justly states that when the statement was made by the Capital Traction Company that other and better ways existed for the merger of the lines, these ways have never been specific as to all concerned. Why?"

"First—At conferences on this subject there never has been a meeting of the managers of the two major traction lines on the relative value of each other's property. Second—The executive and operating management of the merged utilities."

"The men responsible for their companies' management have during their lives served these companies with their major portion of their activities. They have grown up with them, nursed them through illness and pulled them through serious difficulties. Operating conditions of these companies are not parallel. The Capital Traction, due to its original location in this city, has been fortunate to have 48 per cent of its traffic with comparatively short hauls. The other company, on the other hand, has a long haul, and its property is more extensive. Therefore, it is perfectly natural that they have no desire to turn their property over to others to operate, whose earning capacity may be less and whose present problems are more numerous and difficult. Therefore, they want no merger."

"The Washington Railway and Electric Company has inherited a great many nonproductive lines, and some which will be years in producing. If at all, but these lines are serving the people and are necessary to the continuous development of the City of Washington. Not only this, but the present management has inherited, unfortunately, due to the policy of the former chief executives of the company, a hostile and in many cases a just condition of public thought against this property. Not being in a prosperous condition financially, they were unable to meet all operating requirements during this time."

**They Want No Merger.**

"Their stock is widely distributed and their officers' positions have been permanent; consequently they know their property, which is financially prosperous, well managed, and they have no desire to turn it over to others to operate, whose earning capacity may be less and whose present problems are more numerous and difficult. Therefore, they want no merger."

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**In Sullivan Case.**

Bonner is said to have been employed as a private detective for about five years. He is said to have been connected with the Mattingly Detective Agency.

The accused first came into the limelight when he became connected in the \$500,000 alienation suit filed against John T. Davis, millionaire of Elkins, W. Va., by David Sullivan, of Washington, who was the alleged father of his wife's affection. Bonner is said to have been an important witness for Sullivan. The case was decided against Sullivan.

# The Lamb Dressed in Lion's Clothing.

—By J. N. Darling.



# DAUGHERTY WARNS MINERS VIOLENCE MUST NOT OCCUR

**Attorney General Says Men Must Not Interfere With Production.**

There must be no violence in the approaching coal strike.

This is a warning from Attorney General Daugherty, and the government is preparing to restrain any interruption of the nation's fuel supply which occurs through threats of violence or strong-arm tactics. Interference by the strikers with men who make take their places, the Attorney General serves notice, will not be tolerated.

**Must Keep Peace.**

The government is required to maintain the peace and it proposes to do so regardless of the merits of the industrial controversy between the coal miners and the operators.

The Attorney General has had a long conference with President Harding and Secretary of Labor Davis over the coal strike prospect. What definite plans the government may have for proceeding have not been announced, but Mr. Daugherty indicated that he might have something very much to the point to announce at midnight on March 23, the hour set for the coal miners to walk out of the mines.

**Congress on the Alert.**

Congress is beginning to wake up to the dangerous possibilities of the strike. Yesterday the first demand for a Congressional investigation was announced by Representative Blaine of Indiana. Mr. Blaine, Republican, comes from a mining district. He introduced a resolution calling for a comprehensive inquiry into the coal strike, and the committee of the House Committee on Labor.

"The operators," said Mr. Blaine, "should be forced to keep the agreement made two years ago to defer with the miners, just as the miners would be forced to keep it if they should refuse. I think that the government should act in this crisis with all its power."

# HARDING EXPLAINS STAND ON MEXICO

NEW YORK, March 23.—The only "hitch" preventing immediate recognition of Mexico by the United States is "one of precedents," President Harding has stated in a letter to John Barrett, former director general of the Pan American Union, given out with the President's consent.

The letter replied to one by Barrett in which he advised the President that sentiment among Latin-Americans was overwhelmingly in favor of Mexican recognition on a basis of the "natural dignity, sovereignty and rights of both nations."

"We feel the same way about it at Washington," wrote President Harding. "There is really no difference of opinion as to what is necessary to restore former friendly relations between our own republic and that of Mexico. The only hitch anywhere is one of precedents. Undoubtedly both countries are of the same mind."

# Allies Discuss U. S. Army Claims

Favor Payment, But Seek to Delay Transfer of Funds.

PARIS, March 23.—Premier Poincaré, Lord Curzon and Signor Schanzer, discussed Secretary of State Hughes' demand for payment for the cost of the American army of occupation on the Rhine this morning before proceeding to examine the Near East questions.

Although the three foreign ministers were sworn to secrecy, and no communiqué was issued on their conversation, it is understood that Lord Curzon and Signor Schanzer telegraphed to London and Rome, respectively, that Belgium and Japan were unofficially asked to send their opinions regarding a revision of the finance minister's apportionment of 1,000,000,000 gold marks (\$250,000,000), a fortnight ago when Lord Boydell protested that the United States was being ignored.

It is understood that neither Great Britain, France nor Italy contests America's right to be reimbursed for the upkeep of its Rhine army and that they only seek to delay the payment until a later day.

Marshal Foch this afternoon submitted to the allied military experts, suggestions that the Greeks evacuate Asia Minor, stipulating that their withdrawal take place within three months after an armistice.

The foreign ministers have invited Turkey to apply for admission to the league of nations, tacitly promising admission whereupon the Turkish Republic will be insured fair play through the Geneva body.

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# GRANT TO NEW ERIN BITTERLY ASSAILED

LONDON, March 23.—The grant to the provisional Irish government of £1,120,000 (roughly \$5,720,000) was attacked bitterly in the house of commons today by the "die-hards" led by Col. Prettymann Newman, who moved that the estimate be reduced to £100 (\$400) as a protest. He declared the money was being used to pay for rebel property destroyed in the course of military operations and to the detriment of the southern loyalists.

Ronald MacNeil declared it was being paid to a junta of rebels who had no legal authority to compensate them for losses caused while trying to overcome them. The motion was negatived without division.

# CLERKS AS DOCTORS ANSWER VETERANS' LEGION POST SAYS

**Congress Urged to Investigate Veteran Bureau Affairs.**

Urging immediate investigation by Congress and American Legion officials of the "deplorable" condition in the Veterans' Bureau, members of the Sergeant Jasper Post, American Legion, last night severely criticized "discrimination against and unfair treatment of" former service men by officials of the bureau, during a meeting held at 1101 E street northwest.

A committee of members, whose names were withheld, owing to the fact that most of them are employees of the Veterans' Bureau, was appointed and instructed to call upon Watson B. Miller, department commander of the legion, for a list of the names of the members of the committee, and the purpose of urging a rigid investigation of alleged unfair conditions.

**Plans Organized Protest.**

Another committee will be appointed in the near future to urge similar action among the other branches of the American Legion, and to stimulate action toward an investigation on the part of Congress.

Instances were cited of men who have lived in this city for many years, establishing a home here and have been ordered by the bureau to distant cities as the result of the decentralization program now in force.

# HOPE FOR SETTLING RAIL WAGE DISPUTE

CHICAGO, March 23.—Hope that settlement of the wage controversy will be made between Western roads and the Brotherhoods of Railroad Trainmen and Order of Railway Conductors was expressed tonight by William G. Lee, head of the Chicago division of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and the Brotherhood of Firemen and Enginemen. This provided that threat of further wage reduction shall be withdrawn for at least one year and that the question of time and one-half for overtime shall be left to the United States Railroad Labor Board.

The meeting today arranged several weeks ago when brotherhood chiefs met with Secretary of Commerce Hoover in Washington, was adjourned subject to call by the chairman.

# HOUSE PASSES SOLDIER BONUS BILL, 333 TO 70

**President Will Fight to Delay Measure in Senate.**

**GALLERIES CHEER AND HISS SPEAKERS**

**Oratorical Deluge in Congress Resembles Many-Ringed Circus.**

The House passed the \$4,000,000,000 soldier bonus bill late yesterday. Since no amendments were permitted under the rule, the measure as passed was in the same form as reported from the House Ways and Means Committee. It provides cash payments to men entitled to receive \$50 or less, an endowment insurance certificate on which service men may borrow up to 50 per cent of its face value for others, and service men are given the option of these two provisions, or home aid, farm aid, land settlement or vocational training.

The bill now goes to the Senate where President Harding may make a fight to have it delayed.

Under the rule a two-thirds majority was required to pass the measure.

**Fight Begun on Bill.**

The vote was 333 to 70, vastly more than sufficient to put the measure through the lower branch. Four voted present.

Voting for the bill on the final roll call were 248 Republicans, eighty-four Democrats and one Socialist; against it, forty-two Democrats and twenty-eight Democrats.

The President's fight for delaying or entirely rewriting the bill in the Senate, so that it may delay the compensation, was started even before the measure had passed the House. The Treasury Department set it; he knew that collections on the March 15 installment of the income and profits taxes indicated that they would fall about \$500,000,000 below the estimates for the quarter.

**Tax Collections Drop.**

On the basis of collections this far, the March 15 installment, it was said, will be only about \$400,000,000, as compared with \$450,000,000 expected. If this proves true after all, collections are completed at the end of the quarter, there will be a shortage of more than \$50,000,000 in the estimated revenue for this source during the calendar year of 1922, entirely upsetting the Treasury program for continuing reduction of the public debt and making necessary further borrowing by the government to meet appropriations made upon the basis of budget estimates.

The falling off in tax revenues is attributable, Treasury officials said, to the industrial depression and the extent of this may be indicated by the fact that the \$500,000,000 expected from the first quarter's collections this year are against \$725,000,000 collected from the same source for the corresponding quarter last year.

**House Like Circus.**

To add to the drama to this Treasury officials declared, would render even more difficult the government's financial operations.

The House was like a multi-ringed circus during the six hours preceding the vote on the bill.

The outcome, of course, was never in doubt after the rag race, shutting off all amendments, went through at 11 o'clock, 231 to 121. There was nothing but a roar on the floor, four hours allotted for debate and there was a veritable stampede by the Representatives to get a few brief words in for the benefit of their respective constituencies.

During this rapid-fire oratory, each member being on his feet only a minute or so—personalities were exchanged, galleries were torn between hisses and cheers, and the speaker was against or for the bonus, and most of the time it sounded as if everyone were talking at once.

Different Representatives pressed to know exactly what the President would do if the bill got up to him. In fact to judge by the speeches, the President had a score of more or less conflicting views about equally divided between those for and against the bonus. Representative Longworth was sure the President would sign the bill if Congress passed it, but he was answered by Representative Pott that the President would veto it, but was sure the President would veto it.

Representative Jeffers, of Alabama, took occasion to assail Secretary Mellon as a "profiteer." Representative Luce drew hisses from the gallery when he declared the bill would be a "unnecessary burden."

So it went throughout the afternoon. It was a foregone conclusion what the House would do, and the President would do, and the fun of the holiday as they could. Crowded galleries looked down upon the melee all afternoon. Many women and former soldiers were in the galleries, joining in the demonstrations.

**The Roll-Call.**

Following is the roll-call: Republicans, for, 243—Anderson, Andrew (Mass.), Andrews (Nebr.), Anson, Anthony, Appleby, Ariz., Atkins, Bacharach, Barber, Beck, Beedy, Beers, Benham, Bird, Bixler, Blakeney, Blaud (Ind.), Boies, Bond, Bowers, Brennan, Britten, Brooks (Ill.), Brooks (Pa.), Brown (Tenn.), Browne (Wis.), Birdick, Burke, Burroughs, Burleson, Butler, Cable, Campbell (Kans.), Chalmers, Chandler (Okla.), Chindblom, Christopher, Clague, Claxton, Clouse, Codd, Cole (Iowa), Cole (Ohio), Colton, Connelley (Pa.), Cooper (Ohio), Cooper (Wis.), Coughlin, Crago, Cramette, Crowther, Curry, Dale, Dalling, Darlow, Davis (Minn.), Dempsey, Denison, Dickinson, Dowell, Dunbar.

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